



## From Our Nation's Capitol... **THE LUNGREN LETTER**

Dear Friend,

It is a tremendous honor serving you and I hope this second installment of the "Lungren Letter" provides you with a window into the happenings in our nation's Capitol and their impact on our district and across our Golden State. As always, please feel free to call my office at (916) 859-9906 or visit my Web site at <http://www.house.gov/lungren> with your questions and concerns.



Congressman Lungren with McCaffrey Middle School's eighth grade class

It has been a busy couple of months. I have had the opportunity to meet with Third District constituents in California and in our nation's Capitol. The Washington office is continually buzzing with district constituents. Just last week, McCaffrey Middle School's eighth grade class came by for a tour of the Capitol and a picture. If

### Upcoming Town Hall Meetings



**Tuesday, May 31, 2005**  
**from 7:00-9:00 PM**  
Citrus Heights City Hall  
Council Chambers  
6237 Fountain Square Dr.  
Citrus Heights, CA 95621

**Wednesday, July 6, 2005**  
**from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

Galt City Hall  
Council Chambers  
380 Civic Dr  
Galt, CA 95632

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

**Veterans Affairs and Social Security Benefit Workshop**  
**Representatives from VA and SSA Attending**

**Thursday, June 9, 2005**  
**from 5:30--7:30 PM**  
Rusch Park Community Center  
7801 Auburn Blvd.  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

### In Our District...

Since the last Lungren Letter, a great deal has happened within the 3rd Congressional District. I have had the pleasure of hosting several town hall meetings. It was a unique opportunity to meet and converse with many different people from the District. I appreciated everyone's comments and concerns.

I also had the great pleasure of touring California State University, Sacramento. It was an honor to meet with President Gonzalez and hear about the

you are planning trips to our nation's Capitol and wish to arrange a tour of the Capitol or any of the other awe-inspiring monuments in DC, please contact my office for assistance:

[http://www.house.gov/lungren/visit\\_dc.htm](http://www.house.gov/lungren/visit_dc.htm).

We are always happy to help.

### **CAP-TO-CAP TRIP**

In April the Sacramento Metro Chamber Cap-to-Cap (Capitol-to-Capitol) delegation of 388 business and government leaders traveled from Sacramento-to-Washington with their established agenda of legislation and administrative changes.



Congressman Lungren meets with officials from the city of Elk Grove during the April 2005 Cap-to-Cap trip. From left to right: Councilmember Rick Soares, Congressman Dan Lungren, Councilmember Sophia Scherman, and Mayor Dan Briggs

My staff and I had the opportunity to meet with more than a dozen committees in three days regarding issues ranging from the removal of regulatory barriers, workforce development, and community transportation concerns. With a track record of 34-plus years, the Metro Chamber continues to bring the best of Sacramento to the halls of Congress – encouraging debate – and endeavoring to enhance the economic prosperity of our region. My staff and I were proud to welcome the Cap-to-Cap delegates and look forward to doing so again next year.

### **THE REAL ID ACT**

This month, I supported passage of the Real ID Act. This law will help us better track terrorists and secure our borders. It establishes minimum security standards for state identity documents

exciting changes occurring on the campus. The proposed growth for the campus will truly beautify and modernize the campus for future generations.

I was able to meet with several District leaders in the patent, technology and business fields at Eyefinity in Folsom during the past month. This meeting proved very informative for me because I sit on both the Judiciary Committee and Homeland Security Committee. The Judiciary Committee oversees patent laws and the Homeland Security Committee oversees laws pertaining to cybersecurity and economic security. The conversations related directly to legislation currently under consideration as well as that which may be needed to protect businesses for the future.

I also had the opportunity to spend an afternoon in the City of Ione where we were given an amazing tour of Preston Castle, enjoyed the sites and sounds of Ione Homecoming, and celebrated Mass with the parishioners of Sacred Heart.

Finally it was with great honor I presented three Congressional Awards to an outstanding young resident of this District: Sean McNamara. He received the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Congressional Awards for his impressive service towards others. A student at Jesuit High School, Sean gave over 180 hours of voluntary public service to people in need within and out of our District. He is truly deserving of the honors bestowed upon him and is an excellent role model for others in our community.

### **TOWN HALLS ACROSS THE DISTRICT**

We have conducted numerous town halls across our district with many more scheduled for later in the year. I am pleased to say that the town halls have been well attended and provided me an opportunity to listen to your concerns and take those messages back to the Capitol. While not everyone at the town hall agreed on all of the issues, understanding the varying concerns of district residents is important to me and my staff.



such as driver's licenses. This legislation helps prevent terrorists from abusing our asylum laws by listing terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility to the United States and/or deportation to their

home country. Finally, the Congress wanted to ensure the expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence by thwarting the effort of those seeking to obstruct completion of the fence through frivolous environmental claims.

### **THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

The Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee on which I serve has conducted eight oversight hearings regarding the reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act. This has afforded the Judiciary Committee an opportunity to more closely examine certain provisions of the law which some have claimed could lead to future civil liberties violations. In addition, the committee was able to evaluate the effectiveness of current law in aiding the Department of Justice's efforts in the war on terrorism.

We also passed the "Gangbusters" bill. This bill will expand federal authority to prosecute gang members and will establish mandatory minimum sentencing for a series of the most serious offenses.

All this, of course, is in addition to the work we have done on the Immigration, Border Security, and Claims Subcommittee. Recent legislative hearings covered topics such as illegal alien gangs, immigrant workers and job growth. In addition, we recently considered a bill that I cosponsored with Congressman David Dreier. Titled H.R. 98, the Illegal Immigration Enforcement and Social Security Protection Act of 2005 requires the creation of counterfeit-proof social security cards for use in authenticating a person's legal work status and establishes a penalty structure to punish employers who fail to verify an employee's eligibility or who knowingly hire undocumented aliens.



Congressman Lungren taking questions at his Jackson Town Hall in early May

When discussing important issues with fellow Members of Congress at Committee Hearings, on the floor of the House of Representatives or in the Member's Dining Hall, there is nothing more valuable than being able to refer to a specific story or comment I heard at a town hall. The town halls also afford me an opportunity to introduce my district staff to the community and offer a chance for those requiring the assistance of my office to talk face-to-face.

### **FOLSOM DAM ROAD SCHEDULED TO RE-OPEN**

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's decision to opt for a structured re-opening of the Folsom Dam Road to commuters during peak travel hours is credit to the persistence and ingenuity of the city of Folsom. I applaud officials from the city of Folsom who made a concerted effort to work with federal officials to craft a workable solution.



The Folsom Dam Road is scheduled to open to commuters during peak travel hours



Last week in the Judiciary Committee, I supported the "Lawful Firearms in Commerce Act" which would prohibit lawsuits from being brought or continued against gun manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages resulting from the misuse of their products by others. If gun manufacturers or distributors knowingly sell to criminals, they should be sued and/or imprisoned. However, I believe it is the people who use guns to commit crimes that should be severely punished, not the honest gun manufacturer or the gun shop owner.

## **HOMELAND SECURITY**

Earlier this month, H.R. 1544, The Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act successfully passed on the House floor. H.R. 1544 is unequivocally bipartisan in spirit and intent. The First Responders Act moves the distribution of homeland security grants from a "business as usual" formula-based allocation to one that distributes funds based on rational risk assessments. The bill requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop specific, flexible, and measurable goals for state and local government terrorism preparedness.

In addition, it calls for the creation of a First Responder Grant Board which will help prioritize grant applications based on threat, vulnerability, and consequences of a terrorist attack against persons and critical infrastructure. By enacting these reforms, the Congress has taken an important step in establishing a new grant process to provide better support to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line for our safety and our Nation's security. By expediting funding to local communities and by targeting funds to those jurisdictions at the greatest risk, we will not only enhance the security of our Nation against terrorism, but we will also do so in a fiscally responsible way.

## **INAUGURAL MASS OF POPE BENEDICT XVI**

I was invited by Speaker Hastert's Office to be part of a small delegation representing the

My predecessor, Congressman Doug Ose and I have held several important meetings with officials from the Bureau of Reclamation and explained in detail the importance of re-opening the Folsom Dam Road during key commuting hours. I will continue to work with the City of Folsom and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to seek a balance between protecting the Dam from potential terrorism and any undue inconveniences to district residents hindered by the Dam Road's closure.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

It is my pleasure to host the Congressional Art Competition: *An Artistic Discovery* on Sunday, May 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. at The Lakes Spa & Salon in Folsom. *An Artistic Discovery* is a nationwide art competition that showcases the talent of hundreds of high school students from the Third Congressional District and across the nation.

The winning art piece from the District will be hung in the Cannon Tunnel connecting the Cannon House Building to the Capitol. It will be chosen by a distinguished panel of judges comprised of prestigious artistic members of the Sacramento artistic community

The exhibit will be open to the public for viewing May 17–May 29. I am also asking the public to vote in the "People's Choice Award" during The Lakes Spa and Salon normal business hours: Tuesday 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM; Wednesday through Friday 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM; and Saturday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The "People's Choice Award" winner will prominently displayed in my District Office.

## **Upcoming Town Hall Meetings**

My next town hall meeting will be Tuesday, May 31, from 7:00-9:00 PM. I will be meeting with constituents in the Citrus Heights Council Chambers located at 6237 Fountain Square Drive in Citrus Heights.

There will be another Town Hall on Wednesday, July 6, from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Galt City Hall, Council Chambers located at 380 Civic Drive in Galt.

United States House at the Inaugural Mass and Installation of Pope Benedict XVI. The weekend I flew to Rome, I departed via an Air Force Jet from Andrews Air Force Base. After attending the mass on Sunday morning, the delegation returned to Washington late Sunday evening. I was on 7 AM Monday morning flight to California where I conducted a town hall in Folsom Monday night. I then caught an early morning flight on Tuesday to rush back to Washington, DC for votes that night. While it was an exhausting few days, it was an honor and a privilege to represent the people of the Third Congressional District and all of the United States in Rome.



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### Today in Congress

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In addition, please join my staff for a Veterans Affairs and Social Security Benefit Workshop. It is being held Thursday, June 9, 2005, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. at 7801 Auburn Blvd. in Citrus Heights. Representatives from Veterans Affairs and the Social Security Administration will be on site discussing how to apply for benefits, general qualifications, and application procedures.

We very much look forward to our future meetings and town halls. I hope to see you there.

My staff and I are ready to assist you with your questions and concerns. You may contact my office in Gold River at (916) 859-9906 or by clicking on the [Feedback Form](#) located on the front page of my Congressional website.

I encourage you to visit my website at [www.house.gov/lungren](http://www.house.gov/lungren). The website serves as an excellent resource for updates on what is happening in the Congress as well as news impacting the Third Congressional District.

It is an honor to represent the Third Congressional District of California.



### How to Contact Me



**Washington D.C. Office**  
2448 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone (202) 225-5716  
Fax (202) 226-1298

**District Office**  
11246 Gold Express Drive  
Suite 101  
Gold River, CA 95670  
Phone (916) 859-9906  
Fax (916) 859-9976